United Nations A/C.1/53/L.20/Rev.1

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
27 October 1998

Original: English

Fifty-third session
First Committee
Agenda item 75
Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mongolia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay: revised draft resolution

Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 52/42 of 9 December 1997 and previous resolutions referring to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects,

Recalling with satisfaction the adoption, on 10 October 1980, of the Convention, together with the Protocol on Non-Detectable Fragments (Protocol I), the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II) and the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Incendiary Weapons (Protocol III), which entered into force on 2 December 1983,

Also recalling with satisfaction the adoption by the Review Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention, on 13 October 1995 of the Protocol on Blinding Laser

98-32466 (E) 271098

Weapons (Protocol IV), and on 3 May 1996 of the Amended Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II),

Recalling further that the States Parties to the Review Conference declared their commitment to keep the provisions of Protocol II under review in order to ensure that the concerns regarding the weapons it covers are addressed, and that they would encourage efforts of the United Nations and other organizations to address all problems of landmines,

Recalling the role played by the International Committee of the Red Cross in the elaboration of the above-mentioned Convention and Protocols,

Welcoming the additional ratifications and acceptances of, or accessions to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, as well as the ratifications and acceptances of, or accessions to the Amended Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II), and to the Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons (Protocol IV),

Noting that, in conformity with article 8 of the Convention, conferences may be convened to examine amendments to the Convention or to any of the Protocols thereto, to examine additional protocols concerning other categories of conventional weapons not covered by existing Protocols or to review the scope and application of the Convention and the Protocols annexed thereto and to examine any proposed amendments or additional protocols,

Welcoming the decision adopted by the Review Conference in its Final Declaration on 3 May 1996 to convene a Review Conference not later than 2001,

Noting that in accordance with article 13 of the Amended Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II), a conference of High Contracting Parties to that Protocol shall be held annually for the purpose of consultations and cooperation on all issues relating to the Protocol,

1. *Expresses satisfaction* that the Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons (Protocol IV) entered into force on 30 July 1998, commends it to all States, with a view to achieving the widest possible adherence to this instrument at an early date and calls, in particular, on all High Contracting Parties to the Convention, that have not yet done so, to express their consent to be bound by the Protocol;

2. *Welcomes* the adherence to the Amended Protocol II by [21] States and its forthcoming entry into force on 3 December 1998, and calls, in particular, on all High Contracting Parties to the Convention, that have not yet done so, to express their consent to be bound by the Protocol;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in his capacity as depositary of the Amended Protocol II, to convene in 1999 the first annual conference of High Contracting Parties to the Protocol, in accordance with article 13 of the Amended Protocol II;

4. *Calls upon* all High Contracting Parties to the Protocol to attend the first annual Conference, and notes that the Parties, under provisions to be adopted in accordance with paragraph two of article 13, may decide to invite representatives of States not Party to the Protocol, and of the International Committee of the Red Cross;

5. *Urgently calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to take all measures to become parties, as soon as possible, to the Convention and its Protocols, and particularly to the Amended Protocol II, with a view to achieving the widest possible adherence to this

instrument at an early date; and calls upon successor States to take appropriate measures so that ultimately adherence to these instruments will be universal;

6. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General, in his capacity as depositary of the Convention and the Protocols annexed thereto, to continue to inform it periodically of ratifications and acceptances of, and accessions to the Convention, and the Protocols, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fourth session the item entitled "Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects".